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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/992,924	11/05/2001	Andre Weimerskirch	US010114	6961

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EXAMINER

CHEN, SHIN HON

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2131

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/992,924

Applicant(s)

WEIMERSKIRCH, ANDRE

Examiner

Shin-Hon Chen

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/5/01</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-17 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cookson U.S. Pat. No. 6591365 (hereinafter Cookson) in view of Bersson U.S. Pat. No. 6081897 (hereinafter Bersson) and further in view of Spitzenberger et al. U.S. Pat. No. 5930209 (hereinafter Spitz).

4. As per claim 1, Cookson discloses a method for determining the authorization of the rendering of a digital recording, the method comprising the steps of: decoding a watermark and determine if the fragile watermark has been tampered (Cookson: column 4 lines 35- 54: using the weak watermark bits to determine whether it is copy protected). Cookson does not explicitly disclose a) identifying a first section and a last section of a track; b) decoding a watermark from the first and last sections of the track; c) determining if at least one reserved bit is marked in the watermark in each of the first and last sections of the track; and d) determining if sequence IDs are interposed in sections between the first and last sections of the track in sequential order. However, Bersson discloses embedding copy protection information into copy control field of

Art Unit: 2131

each track so that copyrighted tracks can be protected (Bersson: column 1 lines 57-65: consult the table of content for the location of the track and check the control field to determine whether it is copy-protected). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to place the watermark within the control field of each track because watermark and the control field are both used to detect whether a data is copy-protected. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the teachings of Bersson within the system of Cookson because it prevents unauthorized copying of each CD track by examining the copy protection information prior to recording. Bersson as modified does not explicitly disclose determining if the sequence IDs are interposed in sequential order. However, Spitz discloses determining the address value of each sector to check whether a CD is copy protected and the copy control information is arranged preceding and/or succeeding a sector storing copy-protectable information (Spitz: column 2 lines 10-36: check the sequence IDs; column 2 lines 46-55: the copy control information are arranged in lead-in area and/or the lead-out area). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to check whether the address of sectors are arranged in correct order and the copy control information, such as watermark, can be placed in the lead-in or lead-out section because lead-in/lead-out sections because they are used to determine whether copy protection is present. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the teachings of Spitz within the combination of Cookson-Bersson because different copy protection method can be applied together to enhance the protection.

Art Unit: 2131

5. As per claim 2, Cookson as modified disclose the method of claim 1. Cookson as modified further discloses including the additional step of providing at least a preliminary authorization of a rendering of the track if the determinations in steps c and d are both positive (Cookson: column 7 lines 6-12: if data passes the test, then authorize copying).

6. As per claim 3, Cookson as modified discloses the method of claim 2. Cookson as modified further discloses including the additional step of denying a rendering of the track if at least one of the determinations in steps c and d are negative (Cookson: column 7 lines 53-56: if one of the conditions failed, then the CD is not copied).

7. As per claim 4, Cookson as modified discloses the method of claim 2. Cookson as modified further discloses wherein subsequent digital tracks that are authorized are rendered with zero time gap interposed therebetween (Cookson: column 3 lines 60-65: there are no restriction if conditions are met).

8. As per claim 5, Claim 5 encompass the same scope as claim 1. Therefore, claim 5 is rejected based on the reason set forth in claim 1.

9. As per claim 6, Cookson as modified discloses the method of claim 5. Cookson as modified further discloses the method comprising the steps of: c) converting the mixed watermark data and data stream to a digital form (Cookson: figure 1 A/D converter); and d) recording the track in a recording medium (Cookson: column 7 lines 33-38).

10. As per claim 7, Cookson as modified discloses the method of claim 6. Cookson as modified further discloses wherein the recording medium is a compact disc and the data stream comprises music data (Cookson: column 7 lines 33-48).

11. As per claim 8, Cookson as modified discloses the method of claim 6. Cookson as modified further discloses wherein the step of recording the track in a recording medium includes recording a sequence ID in each of the sequential track sections (Spitz: column 2 lines 11-28), the sequence ID identifying the sequential position of the respective track section in the track (Spitz: column 2 lines 11-28).

12. As per claim 9, Cookson as modified discloses the method of claim 6. Cookson as modified further discloses wherein the step of recording the track in a recording medium includes recording a sequence ID in each of the sequential track sections (Spitz: column 2 lines 11-28), the sequence ID identifying the sequential position of the respective track section among a multiplicity of other tracks, each comprised of track sections (Spitz: column 2 lines 11-28).

13. As per claim 10, claim 10 encompass the same scope as claim 1. Therefore, claim 10 is rejected based on the same rationale as claim 1.

14. As per claim 11, Cookson as modified discloses the recording medium of claim 10.

Cookson as modified further discloses wherein the recording medium is a compact disc
(Cookson: column 7 lines 39).

15. As per claim 12, Cookson as modified discloses the recording medium of claim 10.

Cookson as modified further discloses wherein each track section of the track includes sequence
ID data that identifies the sequential position of the track section in the track (Spitz: column 2
lines 11-28).

16. As per claim 13, Cookson as modified discloses the recording medium of claim 12.

Cookson as modified further discloses wherein the sequence IDs for the sequence of tracks
sections beginning with the first track section and ending with the last track section are 1, 2, ...,
n, where n is the number of track sections in the track (Spitz: column 2 lines 11-28).

17. As per claim 14, Cookson as modified discloses the recording medium of claim 10.

Cookson as modified further discloses wherein each track section of the track includes sequence
ID data that identifies the sequential position of the respective track section among a multiplicity
of other tracks, each comprised of track sections (Spitz: column 2 lines 11-28).

18. As per claim 15, Cookson as modified discloses the recording medium of claim 14.

Cookson as modified further discloses wherein the sequence IDs for the sequence of tracks
sections beginning with the first track section and ending with the last track section are n, n+1,

Art Unit: 2131

..., $n+m$, where n is the sequence ID for the first track section and m is the number of track sections in the track (Spitz: column 2 lines 11-28).

19. As per claim 16, Cookson as modified discloses the recording medium of claim 10. Cookson as modified further discloses wherein the track of data comprises music data (Cookson: column 2 lines 7-14).

20. As per claim 17, Cookson as modified discloses the recording medium of claim 16. Cookson as modified further discloses wherein the track of data comprises music data and watermark data that is mixed and converted into a digital form prior to recording to the track (Cookson: figure 1: A/D converter).

Conclusion

21. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Epstein et al. U.S. Pub. No. 20010054144 discloses randomly select sections within a CD to determine the CD can be rendered.

Yamada et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6490683 discloses writing watermark data as ECC data in data storage of an optical medium to achieve copy protection.

Pirot et al. U.S. Pub. No. 20010024411 discloses copy-protected optical disk.

Art Unit: 2131

Park et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6560179 discloses protecting illegal copy by creating unique identification information using the track number and address detected from the lead-in area (column 1 lines 42-45).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shin-Hon Chen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3789. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shin-Hon Chen
Examiner
Art Unit 2131

S.C.
SC

Lou J. Lamare
Primary Examiner